



United States Department of Agriculture

Office of the Secretary
Washington, D.C. 20250

AUG 25 2008

The Honorable Mitchell E. Daniels, Jr.
Governor
State of Indiana
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

Dear Governor Daniels:

Thank you for your letter of July 17, 2008, requesting a disaster designation for Fayette, Hendricks, Scott, and Wells Counties, Indiana, due to losses caused by severe storms, tornadoes, torrential rainfall, flooding, and flash flooding that occurred from May 30, 2008, and continuing.

The Department of Agriculture (USDA) has reviewed the Loss Assessment Reports, along with the additional information submitted by the State Executive Director, Farm Service Agency (FSA). Based on this review, USDA has determined that there were sufficient production losses to warrant a Secretarial disaster designation. Therefore, I am designating Fayette, Hendricks, Scott, and Wells Counties, Indiana, as primary natural disaster areas.

In accordance with section 321(a) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, the following additional areas of your State are named as contiguous disaster counties:

Adams	Franklin	Jackson	Marion	Rush
Allen	Grant	Jay	Montgomery	Union
Blackford	Henry	Jefferson	Morgan	Washington
Boone	Huntington	Jennings	Putnam	Wayne
Clark				

This designation makes farm operators in both primary and contiguous counties eligible to be considered for low-interest emergency loans from FSA, provided eligibility requirements are met. FSA will consider each application on its own merit by taking into account the extent of losses, security available, and repayment ability.

Local FSA offices can provide affected farmers with further information.

Sincerely,

Edward T. Schafer
Secretary